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No. 84810550.8 in the name of René Levy]

Children's diaper

A composite layer comprising a sheet of plastic (1) superposed
on at least one layer of absorbent material.

The sheet (1) bears an image (4), preferably printed on that
side of the sheet which faces toward the absorbent material.

The image may be in a substance that changes color in reaction
to moisture and/or acidity.

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CHILDREN'S DIAPER

Children's diapers consisting of at least one sheet of plastic bearing a moisture-absorbing material on one of its sides are already known.

The object of the invention is to make diapers more pleasing to children, and to do so by virtue of the fact that the sheet of plastic bears a printed image of a character or of an animal.

The appended drawing depicts, by way of example, one embodiment and one alternative form of a diaper that is the subject of the invention.

Figure 1 is a view of the exterior surface of an unfolded diaper.

Figure 2 is a view in section on the line II-II of figure 1.

Figures 3 and 4 are part illustrations of the alternative form.

The diaper is made out of a sheet 1 of translucent or transparent plastic, this sheet constituting the exterior surface of the diaper.

On its interior side, the sheet is covered with a hydrophilic substance 2, then with a hydrophobic substance 3.

The part 3 may be fixed by bonding of its edges against the edges of the sheet 1.

On its interior side, the sheet 1 bears a printed image 4. This image is produced in an ink containing a reagent, that is to say containing a substance that reacts either to moisture or to acidity or to both at once.

For example, the ink could contain sunflower dye or

alternatively phthalein. Thus, the image changes color as soon as the child has urinated. This is advantageous, because the person looking after the child can gain a visual appreciation of the state of the diaper and of the need to change it without getting their hands dirty.

Of course numerous alternative forms of embodiments may be envisioned. The images may preferably be comic strip or cartoon characters or animals.

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate two different forms of a common image, the change in form being brought about by the reaction of the ink of which the image is made. This image 4 comprises three different inks, a first, 5, of which undergoes no appreciable change in color when wetted with urine. Certain parts of this image, particularly the hands 6 and 6' are made in two different substances, one of which becomes visible under the effect of the wetting with urine, while the other, on the other hand, fades away or disappears under this same effect. Other parts of the face of the character are produced in a similar way, particularly the eyes, the tears and the mouth. Figure 4 shows the appearance of the character when the diaper is dry, while figure 3 shows the appearance of this same character when the diaper is wet.

Of course, by reversing the reactive materials in the characters of figures 3 and 4, the image of figure 3 could be the one seen in the dry state and that of figure 4 would become the one seen when the diaper is in the wet state.

When the diapers are sold in packets containing several diapers, the child may be stimulated by having a different design on each of the diapers.

This design could, incidentally, be produced without the use of

reactive substances, and in this case printing could also be on the exterior side of the sheet of plastic.

CLAIMS

1. Children's diaper consisting of at least one sheet of plastic bearing, on one of its sides, a moisture-absorbing material, characterized in that the sheet of plastic bears a printed image of a character or of an animal.

2. Diaper according to claim 1, characterized in that the sheet of plastic is translucent and bears the printed image on its face facing toward the absorbent material.

3. Diaper according to claim 2, characterized in that the image is produced in a substance that reacts under the effect of moisture and/or acidity.

4. Diaper according to claim 3, characterized in that the image is made of several substances, at least one of which becomes visible under the effect of moisture and/or acidity, while the other fades away or disappears under this same effect, these substances being arranged in such a way as to bring about a change in the form of the image.